

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A garment hanger holding device, comprising:

a hook member having a body portion and a hook portion and a longitudinal axis extending through said body portion and said hook portion;
a slot in said body portion and having a long dimension extending transverse to said axis;
a strap threaded through said slot;
a portion of said strap being in the form of a loop;
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion;
a fixed size hook opening between said body portion and said extended hook region; and
wherein said hook portion of said hook member is configured to have a size and shape to be carried directly on a garment hanging rod and wherein said strap and said loop having are configured to have a size and shape suitable for receiving a hook portion of a garment hanger and for providing lateral support to the garment hanger.

2. (*Original*) The device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of slots in said body portion.

3. (*Original*) The device according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of loops formed with said strap.

4. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 2, wherein said strap is threaded through each one of said slots.

5. (*Original*) The device according to claim 4, further comprising a plurality of loops formed with said strap.

Claim 6 (*Canceled*).

7. *(Original)* The device according to claim 1, wherein said loop is formed by affixing opposing portions of said strap to one another.

8. *(Original)* The device according to claim 1, further comprising an adjustable member through which a portion of said strap is threaded to thereby permit a size of said loop to be modified.

9. *(Currently Amended)* A device for holding garment hangers ~~on a rod~~, comprising:
a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion;
an opening in said body portion having a long dimension extending transverse to a long dimension of said device;
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion;
a hook opening between said body portion and said extended hook region;
wherein opposed surfaces across said hook opening are convex in profile; and
wherein said hook opening having is configured to have a dimension sufficiently near a diameter of said a predetermined garment hanging rod to thereby impede passage of said rod through said hook opening.

Claim 10 *(Canceled)*.

11. *(Currently Amended)* A device for holding garment hangers ~~on a rod~~, comprising:
a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion;
an opening in said body portion having a long dimension extending transverse to a long dimension of said device;
a strap threaded through said opening and being in the form of a loop;
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion;
a hook opening between said body portion and said extended hook region;
wherein opposed surfaces across said hook opening are convex in profile; and

wherein said hook opening ~~having~~ is configured to have a dimension sufficiently near a diameter of ~~said~~ a predetermined garment hanging rod to thereby impede passage of said rod through said hook opening.

Claim 12 (*Canceled*).

13. (*Original*) The device according to claim 11, further comprising a plurality of openings in said body portion.

14. (*Original*) The device according to claim 13, wherein said strap is threaded through each one of said openings.

15. (*Original*) The device according to claim 11, wherein said loop is formed by affixing opposing portions of said strap to one another.

16. (*Original*) The device according to claim 11, further comprising an adjustable member through which a portion of said strap is threaded to thereby permit a size of said loop to be modified.

Claim 17 (*Canceled*).

18. (*Currently Amended*) A device for holding garment hangers ~~on a rod~~, comprising:
a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion;
an opening in said body portion for receiving a strap;
an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion and having ~~a straight edge area~~
an extended hook region surface;

a body portion surface opposing said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface and defining a hook opening between said body portion surface and said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface; and

wherein said hook opening ~~having~~ is configured to have a dimension sufficiently near a diameter of said a predetermined garment hanging rod to thereby impede passage of said rod through said hook opening.

19. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 18, further comprising:

a strap threaded through said opening in said body portion; and

a loop formed in said strap for receiving a hook of a garment hanger.

20. (*Original*) The device according to claim 19, further comprising a plurality of loops formed in said strap.

Claim 21 (*Canceled*).

22. (*Currently Amended*) A device for holding garment hangers ~~on a rod~~, comprising:

a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion along a longitudinal axis;

an opening in said body portion having a long dimension transverse to said axis;

an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion and having ~~a straight edge area~~ an extended hook region surface;

a body portion surface opposing said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface and defining a hook opening between said body portion surface and said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface;

said body portion surface or said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface having a curved surface such that a dimension of said hook opening is smallest at a peak of said curved surface; and

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wherein said hook opening having is configured to have a dimension sufficiently near a diameter of said a predetermined garment hanging rod to thereby impede passage of said rod through said hook opening.

Claim 23 (*Canceled*).

24. (*Currently Amended*) A device for holding garment hangers ~~on a rod~~, comprising:

a hook shaped member having a body portion and a hook portion along a long axis of said hook shaped member;

an opening in said body portion;

an extended hook region on an end of said hook portion and having ~~a straight edge area~~
an extended hook region surface forming an angle with said axis;

a body portion surface opposing said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface and defining a hook opening;

a first convexly curved surface on said extended hook region surface;

a second convexly curved surface on said body portion surface;

wherein said hook opening is configured at said angle with said axis, whereby said such that a predetermined garment hanging rod is guided into said hook opening at said angle with said axis when said device is placed on said rod;

wherein said first and second convexly curved surfaces are configured to define a first dimension that is sufficiently near a diameter of said predetermined garment hanging rod such that when said axis is generally orthogonal to said rod, passage of said rod through said hook opening is impeded; and

wherein said first and second convexly curved surfaces are configured to define a second dimension that is wider than said first dimension such that when said axis is at an angle to said rod, said device is more easily removed from said rod.

Claim 25 (*Canceled*).

26. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 1, wherein said slot is rectangular.

27. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 2, wherein one of said plurality of slots is rectangular.

28. (*Currently Amended*) The device according to claim 18, wherein said body portion surface or said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface is convexly curved.

29. (*Currently Amended*) A device for holding garment hangers ~~on a rod~~, comprising:

a hook portion having ~~a straight edge area~~ an extended hook region surface defining one side of a hook opening;

a body portion having a body portion surface opposed to said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface and defining a second side of said hook opening ~~therebetween~~;

a long axis of said device passing through said hook portion and said body portion;

a first convexly curved surface on said ~~straight edge area~~ extended hook region surface;

a second convexly curved surface on said body portion surface; and

wherein said first and second convexly curved surfaces ~~cooperating~~ are configured to form a more narrow hook opening define a first dimension that is sufficiently near a diameter of a predetermined garment hanging rod such that when said axis is generally orthogonal to said rod, passage of said rod through said hook opening is impeded; and

wherein said first and second convexly curved surfaces are configured to define a second dimension that is wider ~~hook opening~~ than said first dimension such that when said axis is at an angle to said rod, ~~whereby~~ said device is more easily removed from said rod ~~when said axis is at an angle to said rod~~.

30. (*Previously Presented*) The device according to claim 29, wherein said first or second convexly curved surface is curved in the shape of a dihedral.